

## HP SAUCE

—hard to get,  
but grand when  
you've got it!

Unobtainable in London  
and the R.E. Counties

## BLACK OUT

LONDON

7.5 p.m.—7.30 a.m.

PLYMOUTH

7.25 p.m.—7.31 a.m.

BIRMINGHAM

7.11 p.m.—7.30 a.m.

(Suggested by Auto-mobility Association)

No. 3252 63rd Year  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1944

OVER 3,000,000 CERTIFIED SALE

[Registered at the G.P.O.]

2d.

LATE  
LONDON  
EDITIONCleans  
Kitchen  
Utensils easilyONE-O-ONE  
From Crookers and Gilman  
use sparingly, supplies are restricted

## 18,000 Tons Of Bombs In A Week Cripple The Luftwaffe

## MOST OF GERMANY'S FIGHTER FACTORIES LEFT IN RUINS

Where the  
Allied Blows  
Have Struck

## Aircraft City Gets Repeat Raid

## RAF POUR 1,700 TONS ON AUGSBURG

AUGSBURG, the great aircraft manufacturing and engineering center, 30 miles north-west of Munich, was devastated on Friday night by RAF heavy bombers. A load of 1,700 tons was dropped.

Our bombers were out for a few hours after U.S. heavies had attacked in daylight.

Large forces of Lancasters and Halifaxes took part. They reported the tactics employed at Schweinfurt the previous night, but making two separate attacks during the night.

Visibility was excellent but little fighter opposition was met, and there was no tendency to scatter the bombing. Large forces were seen landed.

## FIREMEN HELPLESS

In the two and a half hours between the attacks the enemy was evidently quite unable to get the fires under control. Crews of the second force saw the flames before they reached Augsburg, and their own bombing spread the conflagration until it extended over most of the target.

The pilot of a Halifax said: "We were over the town for about six minutes and had an excellent view of the attack. There were tremendous red fires below. I should think that bombing must have been at the rate of about 100 tons a minute during that time."

Of the large number of planes employed 24 were lost. One of them came down in the wilderness and the crew bailing out.

## 84th U.S.

## Aircraft Carrier

The 27,100-ton U.S. aircraft carrier, Bennington, American 64th and the 12th vessel of the Essex class launched from Pearl Harbor, was launched in the New York navy yard yesterday.

Three vessels cost about £15,000,000, carry 80 planes and a crew of 2,000. Each has 15-inch guns.

## Trapped Indian Division Relieved

SCOTTISH patrols sent out by the Seventh Indian Division to assault the Japanese positions which trapped them in the Neak-yeauk Pass in Burma met a Punjabi unit pushing eastward to relieve the encircled troops.

Capt. Gordon Howe, Adjutant of the Punjabi Regiment, first met one of the patrols which had wiped out a small force on the "Sugar Loaf" hill. Then he knew that the battle for the vital pass had been won.

The Neak-yeauk Pass is an unconnecting link with the Bowli-Maungdaung.

BY OUR KAT CORRESPONDENT

IN ONE STAGGERING WEEK OF DAY AND NIGHT BOMBING BRITISH AND AMERICAN HEAVIES HAVE GONE A LONG WAY TOWARDS THE TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF GERMANY'S CAPACITY TO BUILD FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. THAT—NO LESS—IS THE RESULT OF THE CONCENTRATED ATTACKS MADE BY THOUSANDS OF ALLIED PLANES AT THE HEART OF THE

## 'Luftwaffe Not Worn Out'

ONE of the most significant pointers to the desperate position of the Luftwaffe in trying to stem off the Allied bomber attacks came yesterday over the German Radio.

Fritz Lucke, political commentator, began boasting. The Allies hope that their attacks will wear down the German fighter aircraft before the actual invasion gets under way. This hope is futile.

"The Germans are very far from being worn out. All preparations in every conceivable direction have been made to meet the invasion, including a very strong and active fighter force."

## LUFTWAFFE.

Most of the greatest fighter aircraft centres in Germany have either been laid in ruins or so badly damaged that production will be impaired for a long time to come.

Not one German fighter plant remains undamaged, a high-ranking U.S. spokesman said last night.

Preliminary estimates, based on photographs, indicated that since January 1 the Allies had destroyed 80 per cent. of Germany's twin-engine fighter production capacity, 60 per cent. of her single-engine fighter capacity, 25 per cent. of heavy bomber production and 60 per cent. of transport plane capacity.

Germany's last hopes of maintaining a successful air defence, the spokesman added, had now gone.

One of those "vital remnants" which remain is the headquarters of the Messerschmitt plant at Augsburg. German fighter production is still being carried on there.

RAF attacked that on Friday. Augsburg was the home of the Me 410, the fastest German equivalent to the Mustang.

Strong RAF forces made two separate attacks during the night and dropped 1,700 tons of bombs on this city of 170,000 people.

Their attack brought the estimated bomb-load during the week to 18,000 tons, of which the largest target, U.S. planes alone dropped 9,425 tons.

The tremendous scale of the sustained attacks probably came as a surprise to the Germans.

Their defences were dispersed by the two-day attacks, and it is clear that they did not have sufficient fighters to stem the all-important targets from destruction.

Many of our bombers got down to the airfields. Others found that their loss in the air battle were not fighters but bombers which had been whistled up in a neck-or-nothing attempt to save the vital targets.

The Germans met a double failure. Not only did they fail to save their air bases but in the week's fighting they lost less than 60 previous aircraft destroyed.

## CRIPPLING BLOWS

Hundreds more were destroyed on the ground since they had just been turned out of the factory assembly lines. Further large numbers were taken as probable or damaged.

The Luftwaffe has lost 417 fighters during the week were 417 fighters. This was made up by 148 RAF bombers, 222 U.S. heavy bombers and 27 U.S. fighters.

The Luftwaffe has been forced to give battle, and even without the devastation of the aero factories, it has been on a scale much greater than it has ever known.

What this meant to the enemy was made plain in an Air Ministry News Service report of the Augsburg attack. It spoke of the enemy's fighter strength being worn down by the night and day attacks.

"Last night there was everything to suggest that the enemy's defences were crumbling against ours. Actual fighter opposition was slight. It was only to be expected that many fighters would be unserviceable after so many battles and many German pilots must have felt the strain."

Continued in Back Page

## Mannheim May Decide 'We Want To Quit,' Finns Tell Huns

From JOHN PARRIS, B.U.P. Diplomatic Correspondent

FINLAND has officially informed Berlin of her desire to get out of the war, and is now carrying on negotiations with that end, according to neutral diplomatic circles in London.

## First Paratroop M.P.

PARATROOP M.P. arrived in Japan today.

## Premier's Son Dropped In Yugoslavia

CAPT. RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, four-day-old son of the Prime Minister, Britain's first paratroop M.P., arrived in Yugoslavia yesterday.

Presumably he dropped by parachute into the hands of the Partisan forces, which are being large numbers of German troops in the Balkans.

News of this daring visit to territory the Germans claim to be under their control, was given by the Prime Minister's disclosure in the Commons that his "young friend," Lieut.-Col. W. D. Dean, had been captured by parachute into Yugoslavia, where he stayed eight months.

This latest development indicates the importance which the Government attach to the magnificent work of Marshal Tito's men.

## Field-Marshal Is Found Guilty Of Atrocities

FOUR Hungarian officers, including Field-Marshal, were found guilty by a Budapest military tribunal of murder incidents at the Hungarian occupied town of Novi Sad, the German Overseas News Agency said yesterday.

It was previously reported that three high-ranking Hungarian officers were being tried for the murder of Joseph Grassy and Col. Lazo Dedic, together with police Capt. Martin Zild—had been accused of mass murders at Novi Sad, on the Danube.

Holes were knocked in the frozen river and between 1,500 and 2,000 Jews and Gypsies died at bayonet point to the holes in the ice and drowned, it was stated.

The accused led to Germany. The Hungarian Government had to demand their extradition from Hitler—Reuter.

## OUR FIGHTERS BAGGED 3 MORE YESTERDAY

RAF Typhoons yesterday shot down one more of the enemy over Northern France, making three destroyed by our fighters during the day.

Spitfires and Typhoons made a series of sorties over the Channel, morning, afternoon and evening, and it was a night when the last planes came back.



## RUSSIAN THREAT TO HITLER'S 'FATHERLAND LINE'

## Red Army Opens Drive For Minsk

FROM HAROLD KING, REUTER'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A GREAT battle is developing tonight on the White Russian front. General Rokossovsky's Army Group has opened a new phase in the Red Army's winter offensive—a drive for Minsk, the White Russian capital. Thrusting north and north-west from newly captured Rogachev, General Rokossovsky is tearing into the southern anchorage of Hitler's "Fatherland Line" based on the fortresses of Vitebsk, Orsha and Mogilev.

To meet this new and unexpected attack, the German Command is dragging up reserves from wherever it can lay hands on them. Rokossovsky's men are coming up against furious resistance.

The whole of the White Russian front resembles a volcano about to erupt.

When Rokossovsky launched his earlier offensive in the second week of January, resulting in the capture of Minsk and the crossing of the River Beresina, the Germans concentrated their main force south of Zhitob, at the extreme end of the "Fatherland Line."

It was here that they expected the Red Army to resume its attack. But Rokossovsky's men were here that they expected the Red Army to resume its attack. But Rokossovsky's men were here that they expected the Red Army to resume its attack.

Carrying out a difficult but brilliantly executed manoeuvre, he delivered his new blow much further north than he had intended. This involved crossing the Dnieper.

The apparently paradoxical result has been the capture of Rostov before Chirchik.

BALTIC GATEWAY

In the north the Red Army's drive on Pskov, gateway to the Baltic, is making good progress. It is being speeded up.

Three forces driving directly between 30 and 40 miles from the city, advanced 25 to 35 miles this week and are now variously between 30 and 40 miles from the city.

Measurable troops of the second Baltic Army group, after advancing 30 miles in four days and crossing the Dnieper, are now on a railway over a broad stretch, are developing a new offensive, outflank Pskov from the south.

This threat was intensified to night when the Soviet command announced the capture of the important rail town of Pskov, advancing Red Army and Pskov no large town has the way.

The communiqué added: "Novosel, a district centre of the Pskov region, has been captured. The railway station was also captured. Our troops occupied over 100 other important localities."

Our troops have completely captured the town of Novosel. The town and west of Novosel. Our troops were engaged in offensive operations and occupied the town of Novosel.

On other sectors of the front there was reconnaissance activity. During Friday our troops disabled or destroyed 36 German tanks. In air combat and by A. fire 30 enemy planes were shot down.

The Dniepr-Donetsk railway is a great 106-mile stretch of the main lateral railway connecting the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

## Kesselring's Hope Fades

## GERMANS LOSE 15,000 AT BEACHHEAD

From DAVID BROWN, Reuter's Special Correspondent

ALLIED H.Q., North Africa, Saturday.

A SOBER assessment of the situation in the beach-head was made by Allied force headquarters over four main points by which an added strain has been thrown on the German war machine.

1. The most powerful and fiercely pressed attack by the German 14th Army has been directed against the beach-head. German casualties cannot be assessed accurately, but they are calculated as high as 15,000 men since January 22. This includes 2,816 prisoners so far reported.

2. The German plan for relieving a number of the best divisions and their western defences has been upset. These divisions are now considerably depleted in men and equipment.

3. Ten divisions are at present contained in the beach-head, the bulk of which the Germans cannot regard with equanimity in the present circumstances.

4. The German garrisons in France and Yugoslavia were weakened to meet the Allied landings. In addition the Germans had to bring from Germany three independent infantry-reinforced formations, of which two were special demonstration and experimental formations. At least a battalion of heavy tanks has also been drawn down to Italy.

Temporarily, at least, the enemy has been thrown out of the defensive and at present he is regrouping.

German attacks to infiltrate south-west of Carroccio through deep ravines previous were halted. German attacks on the main Fifth Army front yesterday were again directed against the French positions on Mount Aubert, north of the Tiber. They were repulsed.

More German forces, mainly mountain troops, have arrived in the St. Gungulish district of Haute Savoie to help in the operations against the French. The French railway station was also captured. Our troops occupied over 100 other important localities.

Our troops have completely captured the town of Novosel. The town and west of Novosel. Our troops were engaged in offensive operations and occupied the town of Novosel.

On other sectors of the front there was reconnaissance activity. During Friday our troops disabled or destroyed 36 German tanks. In air combat and by A. fire 30 enemy planes were shot down.

The Dniepr-Donetsk railway is a great 106-mile stretch of the main lateral railway connecting the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

Loss of this long stretch of highly important railway is a big blow at the movement of German troops and supplies to the Pskov battle and the fighting now flaring up in White Russia.

## TWO TEASPOONFULS POWDERED MILK

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

## ONE TEASPOONFUL SUGAR

LESS THAN  
PRE-WAR  
PRICE  
NO POINTS  
REQUIRED













